UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/52/793
S/1998/120
12 February 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-second session
Agenda item 61
QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-third year

Letter dated 10 February 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to draw your attention to new violations of the airspace of the Republic of Cyprus and of the Nicosia flight information region by a military aircraft of the Turkish Air Force, recorded on 6 February 1998. On that day, at 1217 hours, a C-650 Turkish military plane entered the Nicosia flight information region from a northerly direction violating the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus and flying over the Cape of the Apostle Andreas and Cavo Greco and exiting at 1248 hours in a south-easterly direction.

On the same day, at 1606 hours, the same aircraft again violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, entering the Nicosia flight information region from a southerly direction, flying once again over the area of the Cape of the Apostle Andreas, then exiting at 1636 hours towards the Ankara flight information region.

As stated in my previous letters, such unauthorized intrusions into the Nicosia flight information region and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus are in violation of international law and international air traffic regulations. At the same time, they are in contravention of the provisions of the Security Council resolutions on Cyprus, increase political tension on the island and undermine efforts towards achieving a just, lasting and functional settlement on the basis of the relevant United Nations resolutions.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus, I wish to protest strongly against the new violations of the sovereignty and territorial integrity

of the Republic of Cyprus, which are in complete disregard of the Charter of the United Nations.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 61, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Sotirios ZACKHEOS
Ambassador, Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Cyprus to
the United Nations